

Appl. No. 10/790,432
Amdt. dated January 5, 2007
Reply to Restriction Requirement of December 5, 2006

REMARKS

The Action requires election of either:

- Group I, claims 15-22; or
- Group II, claims 1-14

Applicants elect Group II, claims 1-14, with traverse.

Independent claims 15, 18 and 20 have been rewritten as dependent on claim 1. Claims 16-17, 19 and 21-22 are now all indirectly dependent on claim 1 as well, by virtue of their dependencies on claims 15, 18 and 20, respectively.

For restriction to be proper, there must be a serious burden on the Examiner. See M.P.E.P. § 803. Applicant has elected Group II, claims 1-14. Because claims 15-22 include every element of claim 1, claims 15-22 are not independent of claim 1. Examination of claims 15-22 do not pose any serious burden on the Examiner, because allowance of claim 1 would automatically result in a finding that claims 15-22 include allowable subject matter.

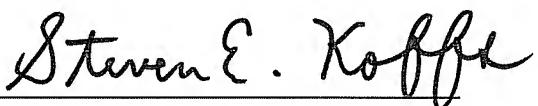
Accordingly, claims 15-22 are in proper form for rejoinder, and Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of claims 15-22 at this time.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests examination of claims 1-22.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 1-5-07



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